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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/855,980	05/15/2001	James E. Fox	RSW920010039US1	1618

7590

03/29/2004

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EXAMINER

PILLAI, NAMITHA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

3

DATE MAILED: 03/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/855,980

Applicant(s)

FOX ET AL.

Examiner

Namitha Pillai

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 May 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the missing application numbers must be filled in (page 1).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5, 808, 601 (Leah et al.), herein referred to as Leah.

Referring to claims 1, 9 and 14, Leah discloses a method of displaying a pre-selection indicator for a widget displayed by a graphical user interface (GUI) (column 4, lines 4-7), wherein the automatic positioning of the cursor on top of the widget itself describes a pre-selection indicator process that occurs for the widget (Figure 4B). Leah also discloses determining a field of influence extending beyond the visual display area of the widget (reference number 3, Figure 2A and column 6, lines 57-60). Leah also discloses determining whether a displayed selection pointer is within the field of influence of the widget (column 2, lines 53-58). Leah discloses if so, displaying the preselection indicator for the widget, when the displayed selection pointer is within the field of influence (column 4, lines 1-7).

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Referring to claims 2, 7, 10 and 15, Leah discloses a visual aura associated with the displayed widget (column 2, lines 53-58).

Referring to claims 3, 11 and 16, Leah discloses visually scaling the displayed widget to a boundary surrounding the widget, the boundary being defined by the field of influence (Figures 2 and column 4, lines 1-5).

Referring to claims 4 and 12, Leah discloses calculating a boundary value $B = \sqrt{(m/M)}$ for defining the field of influence, wherein m represents a mass value associated with the widget and M represents a mass value associated with the displayed selection pointer (reference number 6, Figure 1 and column 6, lines 15-30).

Referring to claims 5 and 13, Leah discloses determining a distance D between the center of the displayed selection pointer and the center of the widget and determining whether the boundary value B is greater than greater than or equal to the distance D (Figures 2).

Referring to claim 6, Leah discloses a method of generating a pre-selection indicator for a widget displayed by a graphical user interface (GUI) (column 4, lines 4-7). Leah discloses determining the distance D between the center of a displayed selection pointer having a mass value M and the center of the widget having a mass value m (Figures 2). Leah also discloses calculating the value $B = \sqrt{(m/M)}$ (reference number 6, Figure 1). Leah also discloses determining whether the value of B is greater than or equal to D and if so, generating the pre-selection indicator for the widget (column 5, lines 55-60).

Referring to claim 8, Leah discloses that visually scaling the displayed widget to a boundary surrounding the widget, the boundary being defined by the value B (column 5, lines 52-55).

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited therein teach the method for displaying pre-selection indicators.

Responses to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington D.C. 20231. If applicant desires to fax a response, central FAX number (703) 872-9306 may be used. NOTE: A Request for Continuation (Rule 60 or 62) cannot be faxed.

Please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT" for informal facsimile communications. For after final responses, please label "AFTER FINAL" or "EXPEDITED PROCEDURE" on the document. Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Namitha Pillai whose telephone number is (703) 305-7691. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116.

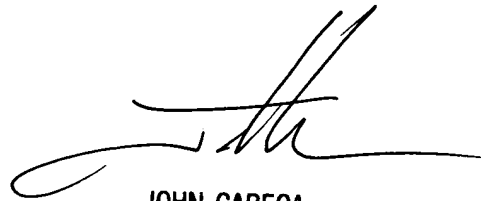
All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly

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set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Namitha Pillai
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2173
March 17, 2004

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'John Cabeca', with a stylized, flowing script.

JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100